



The ISC Newsletter

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Editor
J. Richard Greenwell

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NEW PYGMY ELEPHANT PHOTOS INDICATE SEPARATE SPECIES



A band of four adult and two juvenile elephants photographed in the Congo by former West German Ambassador Harald Nestroy. The presence of tusks and two juveniles show that the larger individuals are indeed adults, and thus could not be juveniles themselves — a popular explanation for pygmy elephant reports. If some sort of scale were visible in the photo, the size of the adults could be calculated, and the matter resolved; for this, see photo on p. 2. (Harald N. Nestroy.)

Photographic evidence supporting the existence of the pygmy elephant as a separate — and second — species of African elephant has surfaced in Germany.

The photos, which are quite clear and in color, were taken by Harald Nestroy, the former West German Ambassador to the People's Republic of the Congo, during a hunting expedition to the northern Likouala region. The photos show a band of elephants, with both adults and juveniles, at a distance of only about 30 feet (9m). Furthermore, because a scale is visible in one of the photos — a great egret bird — the height of the adults in the photo can easily be calculated. This calculation supports the long-claimed existence of the pygmy elephant as a species separate from the African elephant, *Loxodonta africana*.

The pygmy elephant was actually described as a distinct species, *Loxodonta pumilio*, in 1906 by German zoologist Theodore Noack (A Dwarf Form of the

African Elephant, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, Ser. 7, Vol. 17:501-3). Pygmy elephants were believed to stand between 5 feet (1.5m) and 6.5 feet (2m) tall at the shoulder, compared to the 7.5 feet (2.3m) to 9 feet (2.7m) attributed to the forest elephant, *Loxodonta africana cyclotis*, the subspecies that inhabits the forests of Central Africa. The pygmy elephant is said to inhabit denser, swampy habitat in the Congo and some surrounding countries.

Despite a continuing series of reports of pygmy elephants throughout the 20th century from explorers and hunters — and its recognition as a distinct form by various native peoples of Central Africa — zoologists have essentially ignored this taxon, and it does not appear in most standard mammalian texts or guidebooks. If mention is made of it at all, it is generally attributed to the forest elephant — the result of sightings of nutritionally dwarfed individuals, or sightings of juveniles moving together in their own bands.

The latter explanation was the position taken by David Western, who undertook a forest elephant survey in Central Africa in 1986. He pointed out that the very large — and well known — bush elephant subspecies, *Loxodonta africana africana*, sometimes enters the forest habitat of the smaller forest elephant subspecies, giving rise to reports of two different-sized elephants, with the bush elephant being mistaken for the forest elephant, and the forest elephant being mistaken for the non-existent pygmy elephant. He concluded that “there is no reason to believe that a pygmy elephant exists” (David Western, 1986, *The Pygmy Elephant: A Myth and a Mystery*, *Pachyderm* [Newsletter of the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources], December).

Following this publication, two German zoologists, Martin Eisentraut and Wolfgang Bohme, at the Alexander Koenig Zoological Research Institute and Museum, in Bonn, undertook a new investigation of the pygmy elephant. This involved the review of historical accounts, modern eyewitness reports, photographic evidence, and the examination of pygmy elephant skulls at the Royal Museum of Central Africa, in Belgium.

They concluded that the pygmy elephant is a valid taxon, a legitimate species as described by Noack in 1906 (Martin Eisentraut and Wolfgang Bohme, 1989, *Gibt es zwei Elefantenarten in Afrika?* [Are There Two Species of Elephant in Africa?], *Zeitschrift des Kolner Zoo* [Journal of the Cologne Zoo], Vol. 32[2]:61-68). A summary of their findings appeared in *The ISC Newsletter*, Vol. 9, No. 1 (Spring, 1990).

The article by Drs. Eisentraut and Bohme sparked new interest in the pygmy elephant in Europe (but not in the U.S., where their article was barely noticed —

the *Newsletter* article is believed to be its only coverage in North America). This resulted in numerous new informants — including Ambassador Nestroy — contacting them with further evidence.

One of the new informants was R. Bechinger, who reported that at the Debo River, in the Ivory Coast, he had repeatedly found sign of bands of small elephants with small-diameter tracks. He stated that the Bete tribesmen also knew of — and distinguished between — the small and large elephant forms in the forest. He had also heard of similar reports from the Makokou and Lambarene tribes in Gabon. Finally, he mentioned seeing a small elephant, but with 24-32-inch (60-80-cm) tusks, in Zaire's Kinshasa zoo in



The same band of elephants — four adults and two juveniles — as shown in the first photo. The lead elephant, a cow, is passing in front of a great egret, *Egretta alba*, which is known to stand about 40 inches (100cm) tall, thus providing a scale. (Harald N. Nestroy.)

the early 1960's, which zoo personnel referred to as a “pygmy elephant.”

Another informant was veterinarian Claus C. Muller, who wrote: “In 1963-64 I was veterinarian for the private zoo of the president of Liberia, in Totota. Upon my arrival in 1963, I found a pair of small elephants, although the bull had very long tusks. They were called ‘pygmy elephants,’ and they did not grow during my two years in Liberia. I left in 1964, but returned for a short visit in 1970. The elephants had still not grown. There was no information on the origin of these animals. I was told that they were imported from the Congo as a present to the presi-

dent.” Dr. Muller also submitted photos to Drs. Bohme and Eisentraut, which support his account.

But the most dramatic photographic evidence submitted came from Ambassador Nestroy, also in Bonn, who is now an official in the German Foreign Ministry. This and the other evidence received resulted in a new article by Drs. Bohme and Eisentraut (1990, *Zur Weiteren Dokumentation des Zwerg elephants* [*Loxodonta pumilio* Noack, 1906] [Further Documentation of the Pygmy Elephant (*Loxodonta pumilio*, Noack, 1906)], *Zeitschrift des Kolner Zoo* [Journal of the Cologne Zoo], Vol. 33[4]:153-58).

The observation by Ambassador Nestroy occurred in May of 1982 in the northern swampy Likouala region of the Congo, near the borders with Cameroon and the Central African Republic. (Coincidentally, ISC Vice President Roy Mackal, ISC Secretary Richard Greenwell, and *Cryptozoology* Editorial Board member Justin Wilkinson had dined with Ambassador Nestroy at his residence in Brazzaville several

months earlier, during the 1981 Mackal Expedition searching for evidence of Mokele-Mbembe in the same region, and the pygmy elephant was touched upon during dinner conversation.)

Ambassador Nestroy first observed and photographed a band of what he believed to be pygmy elephants crossing a clearing (see front page photo). The band included four adults, (see tusks) and two juveniles. Shortly afterwards, from the same vantage point, he observed, crossing the same clearing, several forest elephants, which he also photographed. Not only was he able to observe that these elephants were much larger, but, in addi-

tion, they were accompanied by forest buffalo, *Syncerus caffer*, which provide a scale in that photo (not reproduced here).

Unfortunately, the forest buffalo are not visible in the pygmy elephant photos, which would have provided a scale for them also. Ambassador Nestroy stated that these two — the forest buffalo and the pygmy elephants — were about the same size.

However, at the left margin of the second pygmy elephant photo reproduced here, the lead cow elephant is passing in front of a tall, white bird. This bird has been identified as the great egret, *Egretta alba*, the standing height of which is known to be about 40 inches (100cm). This provides the needed scale, placing the lead cow elephant's height at the shoulder at about 60 inches, or 5 feet (1.5m) — see illustration. This is consistent with all the other evidence amassed for the pygmy elephant, and is inconsistent with the explanation advanced by doubters that witnesses have merely observed juvenile forest elephants.

Ambassador Nestroy observed, and such is visible in the photographs, adult, tusk-bearing elephants scaled at 5 feet (1.5-m) at the shoulder, and such 5-foot (1.5-m) adults are unquestionably accompanied by juveniles, which, in Ambassador Nestroy's own words, "were the size of sheep dogs."

Drs. Bohme and Eisentraut concluded their article with the following points: 1) The band with both adults and juveniles "conclusively lays to rest the most frequently cited argument against the recognition of a second species of African elephant"; 2) the fact that forest elephants were photographed shortly afterwards, together with forest buffalo for scale, demonstrates "the coexistence, in separate bands, of two forms of elephant that differ grossly in size"; 3) the great egret "is self-evident proof to any observer of the size of the lead cow, and even of the smallest accompanying juvenile."

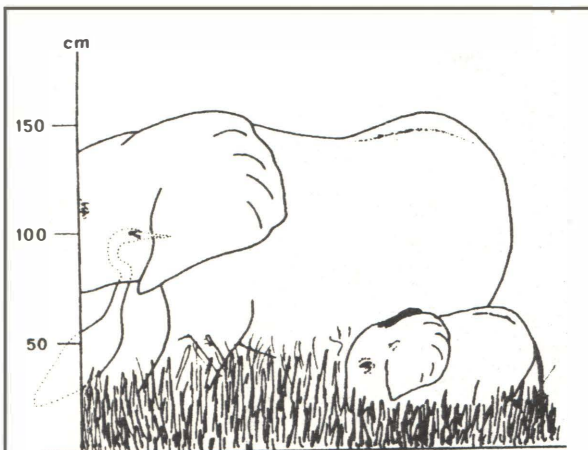
Their final statement reads: "Our first article began with a question. We now close our second article in the same manner: What further proof is necessary to convince the stubborn doubters that the problem of the pygmy elephant and its evolution, biology, and protection cannot be solved by ignoring the object itself."

Some of the Editor's own comments in the previous *Newsletter* article (Spring, 1990) may be worth repeating here: "The differences between it [the pygmy elephant] and the forest elephant appear

ant, and, also, that extraordinary claims require extraordinary proof, the burden now falls on the doubters. The burden is on the doubters to respond in some manner, and to explain this new photographic evidence, either by accepting it as conclusive proof that the pygmy elephant does exist as a valid taxon — and, by implication, that their previous pronouncements were wrong — or by providing an alternative explanation that is both rational and reasonable.

Will the "stubborn doubters" take up the challenge? As the old saying goes, only time will tell, but admitting past mistakes is actually to one's credit. Ignoring new evidence is not.

If, ultimately, the evidence is considered strong enough to warrant the acceptance as a new species of what we have previously called this "pesky pachyderm," then, for once, we can add — instead of subtract — another large mammal to the lists of our planet's living fauna. □



Drawing based on the second photo showing the relative heights of the lead cow elephant, the first juvenile elephant, and the great egret, *Egretta alba*. The presence of the great egret, which is known to have a standing height of about 40 inches (100 cm), provides the needed scale, and shows that the adult lead elephant, a cow, had a height at the shoulder of about 5 feet (1.5m). This is consistent with the reported size of pygmy elephants, and provides strong evidence for the existence of this unrecognized taxon. (U. Bott.)

to be far more substantial than the differences between many other known species — so why not just accept its reality?...it sometimes happens that, for some inexplicable reason, there is stronger resistance to a particular supposed animal than can be rationally explained. Sometimes the debate may take on a life of its own, causing the animal itself to become almost mythical...Upon reflection, then," the Editor concluded, "one may wonder what all the fuss is about. What, after all, is so improbable about a pygmy elephant?"

As matters stand now, by the conventional rules of scientific evidence, in which the burden of proof is on the claim-



Enlargement from photo on page 2.

FORREST G. WOOD, 1919-1992

Forrest G. Wood, one of the Society's founding directors and a well-known marine biologist, died on May 17, 1992. The following obituary was written by his friend (and Newsletter Editor) J. Richard Greenwell.

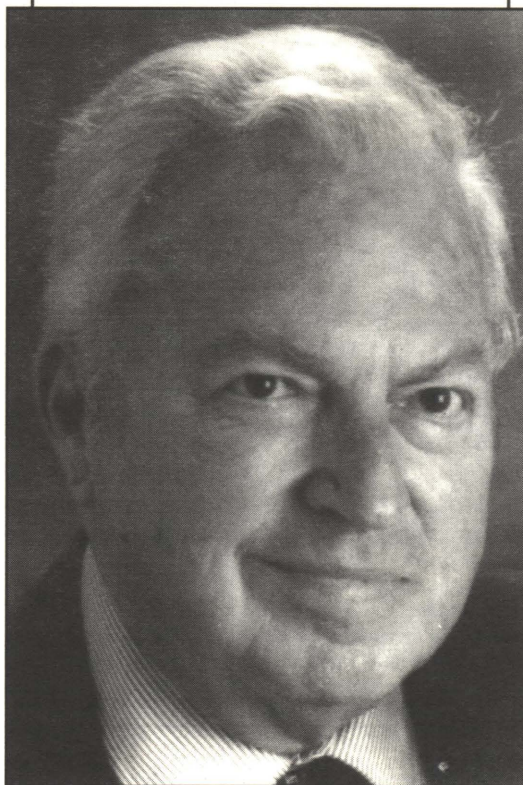
Forrest G. ("Woody") Wood was born in South Bend, Indiana in 1919, and graduated from Earlham College in 1940. Upon America's entry into World War II in 1941, he joined the Army Air Corps, first trying out for pilot — "but my landings were always too bumpy," he once told me — and then moving on to photo-interpretation and intelligence with the 40th Bomb Group. He served in Central America, India, China, and the Mariannas.

After the war, Woody pursued graduate studies in marine biology at Yale University, obtaining an M.S. degree and fulfilling all his doctoral requirements except for the successful completion of his dissertation project — caused, he later wrote, by "the anomalous and still inexplicable behavior of my experimental fishes." In 1950, with plans to redo his dissertation, he accepted a one-year stint with the American Museum of Natural History as the first resident biologist at the Museum's Lerner Marine Laboratory on Bimini, in the British West Indies.

Life's adventures have a strange way of unfolding, and Woody never did get back to Yale and his dissertation. Instead, the following year, he accepted the post of curator at the new Marine Studios (later Marineland) and the Marineland Research Laboratory in Florida. This was the world's first marine park or oceanarium, and Woody was thus one of the very first scientists to observe and study large marine animals at close range in enclosed artificial habitats. In 1963, he moved to Point Mugu, California, accepting the position of head of the Marine Sciences Division of the U.S. Naval Missile Center, and, in 1967, head of the Marine Biosciences Facility of the Naval Undersea Center. In those capaci-

ties, Woody oversaw the launching of the most comprehensive marine mammal research program ever undertaken.

In 1969, following incorporation of the marine mammal program into the new Naval Undersea Warfare Center — later the Naval Undersea Center — in San Diego, he joined the staff there. Following another organizational name change in 1977, Woody became senior scientist in the Biosciences Department of what is



Forrest G. Wood

today the Naval Ocean Systems Center. Beginning in 1984, he also served on the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Marine Mammal Commission, reviewing applications for the capture and maintenance of all marine mammals under U.S. jurisdiction.

Woody's work with the Navy gave him an intimate knowledge of marine mammal behavior, which resulted in many published papers, monographs, and books. His publications covered such topics as the captive breeding of dolphins, toothed whale echolocation, cetacean stranding

phenomena, the range of the basking shark, methods of anesthetizing large sharks, shark and octopus behavior, and dolphin-shark relationships. He authored a classic book, *Marine Mammals and Man: The Navy's Porpoises and Sea Lions* (R.B. Luce, Washington, 1973), which was later translated into Dutch and Russian, and became a big seller in the Netherlands and the Soviet Union. I believe his last major work, as co-editor, was the 1986 volume *Dolphin Cognition and Behavior: A Comparative Approach*.

A man of great humor and many pursuits — he was an amateur magician, among other things — Woody had always had a serious interest in cryptozoology. His involvement in freshwater "lake monsters" was less intense, but he keenly followed "sea serpent" and giant octopus reports. It was while working in Bimini in 1950-51 that he first heard native stories of a giant "scuttle" (octopus), and later, when working at Marineland, he uncovered the 1897 case of a supposed giant octopus washed up on a St. Augustine beach. He tracked down a surviving part of the specimen at the U.S. National Museum, and an analysis by cell biologist Joseph F. Gennaro — another founding ISC director — indicated that the tissue was, in fact, octopus.

Although Woody did not live to see his giant octopus scientifically verified, he thought the testimonial and physical evidence was compelling, and he proposed that the Tongue of the Ocean, a deep trench off of the Bahamas, would be a good place to look for it. We sometimes talked of visiting Andros Island, on the edge of the Tongue, to see if the native people there ever see surfacings, but we never got around to it.

Woody and Joe Gennaro published an article on their findings in the March, 1971, issue of *Natural History*, the popular magazine published by the Ameri-

can Museum of Natural History, although Woody was incensed with — and never forgave — the editors for the subtitle they used without his approval: “Stupefying Colossus from the Deep!” As he continued to complain about this well into the 1980’s — and when I felt so mischievously inclined — I sometimes addressed the envelopes of my letters to him at his official Navy office thus: “Mr. Forrest G. Wood, Expert on the Stupefying Colossus from the Deep!, Biosciences Department, U.S. Naval Ocean Systems Center, San Diego, California.”

And then there was the matter of the block of cement. The relationship between Woody and Joe Gennaro had apparently always been up and down. Woody sometimes called Joe “irresponsible,” and Joe sometimes referred to Woody as “nit-picky.” Woody told me the story of how once, after one such exchange, Joe had mailed him a heavy C.O.D. package. Woody went down to the post office, and — always very particular about not spending taxpayers’ money on his personal research — paid for the large postal fee himself, only to find back in his office that the package contained a cement block — the kind used as garden stepping-stones. I once asked Joe if this story was true. Joe confirmed that it was, and added, by way of justification, that the cement block had a small dolphin engraved on it!

I think that, secretly, Woody enjoyed lambasting Joe, and I know they had a cordial get-together in California some years ago. In fact, although Woody had a low patience threshold with charlatans, incompetents, and even poor writers — he was always complaining about how illiterate most academics are — he had a very special and often droll sense of humor. With his large, august physical presence and a stern countenance, he would sometimes make the most outrageous pronouncements with a perfectly straight face, such as when he introduced the film *The Return of the Creature* — a parody of the famous motion picture *Creature from the Black Lagoon* — at the Society’s 1991 Membership Meeting in Galveston (see *Newsletter*, Summer, 1991).

A keen student of the English language, Woody was very particular about usage and grammar, and many are the Navy scientists whose manuscripts suffered under the authority of his editorial pen. He detested the word “octopi” (see his letter on the subject in the Society’s very first newsletter, Spring, 1982), and he once formed the Society for the Elimination of the Term Octopi from the English Language (SETOEL). Besides serving as its president, he was the only member, although I believe he once conferred honorary membership on me. He enjoyed studying and trading limericks, as well as writing acerbic letters to newspaper editors on any subject. He also kept threatening to run for president of the United States, as he considered his full name, Forrest Glenn Wood, “strong presidential timber.”

Woody was there when we founded the Society at a special meeting at the U.S. National Museum of Natural History in January of 1982. In the first years of the Society, he was of invaluable help to me in getting things organized and running. Most members will never fully know how much his thinking and advice influenced how the Society evolved into what it is today. He was a true scientist. On the one hand, he was a skeptic, demanding hard evidence before accepting unusual claims, such as are found in cryptozoology; but, on the other hand, he did not believe in sweeping unverified phenomena under the scientific rug without at least attempting to get to the bottom of things.

A good friend to me personally, Woody was also a strong supporter of the Society, and of cryptozoology in general. I miss him very much. I miss his encyclopedic knowledge, his balanced and objective approach to things, his good nature, and his humor. I must now remain content with the memories of all the good times we shared, such as once spending a quiet couple of hours together in the Vancouver Aquarium. I was amazed when he explained to me the life history of almost every little fish on display, and I realized that marine mammals had not lessened his early knowledge and interest in ichthyology.

In recent years, Woody was the subject of tributes from numerous scientific organizations, including being formally recognized at the 1989 Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals. Our Society could not bestow great honors upon him, but soon after his stepping down from the Board of Directors because of ill health, and a few weeks before his death, the Board voted to elevate him to Honorary Membership, making him the Society’s first American Honorary Member. I called him with the news, and he expressed his astonishment and delight.

Woody died as he lived, following his passion for marine biology. He once told me that he felt guilty because he was doing exactly what interested him most in the world, and was being paid to do it. Appropriately, his ashes have been scattered at sea. Woody’s strong personality is now physically absent, but his presence is still very much felt, and he will not be forgotten.

J. Richard Greenwell
Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A.

“Use soft words and hard arguments.”

English proverb

“Trust in God — but tie your camel tight.”

Persian proverb

“The Good Lord set definite limits on man’s wisdom, but set no limits on his stupidity — and that’s just not fair!”

Konrad Adenaur
Postwar chancellor of
West Germany
The Churchman, January 15, 1970

“Trying to squash a rumor is like trying to unring a bell.”

Shana Alexander
American writer

EDITORIAL

ROLLING, AND FULL STEAM AHEAD

We're back. After a long delay, *The ISC Newsletter* is back. And, soon, our scholarly journal *Cryptozoology* will also be back. The reason we have been so delayed is a long story, the details of which will be of little interest to most members. But we at least owe an abridged version to the membership.

First, we realize that most people are not too interested in the administrative, political, or financial affairs — or the general difficulties — of an organization. Essentially, for them, the organization delivers or it doesn't. What most people are concerned with, and rightly so, is getting the publications they are supposed to receive. If they don't receive these, then, in accordance with the most fundamental principle of economics, the cost has been higher than the benefit.

Our problems, of course, have had to do with economics — or, rather, with finances. We have always been undercapitalized. In fact, in 1982, when we were first established, I was handed \$180 by the then Board of Directors, which had just founded the Society in Washington, D.C., with instructions to commence operations and initiate a publications program! It worked. People now talk about the 1980's as being the "greedy" decade. Maybe. But although the Society has received many more smaller donations in the 1990's, the number of larger donations has decreased even when the economy, at least in the U.S., has been much improved.

Although Society finances had always been tight, our first real crisis occurred in 1992, when two contributors of means discontinued their annual support of \$5,000 each. There was nothing improper in that, although it has to be admitted that these Benefactors had failed to also be elected to the Board of Directors of the Society — as they had hoped — positions which are restricted to practicing scientists. Nevertheless, one of these two individuals had given his word about his 1992 contribution, regardless of any other considerations, and I naively counted on this support arriving, and planned accordingly. He failed to keep his word. Enough said about that.

That let-down had a sort of cascading domino effect, in that we did not have the means to continue publishing, and then be able to reap the income from membership renewals. Various schemes by well-meaning individuals for raising substantial financial support for the Society did not occur, or simply failed. Even so, thanks to the generosity of dozens of members who have contributed smaller amounts, a few who have contributed more significant amounts (\$1,500), thus becoming life-long Benefactors, and the annual support (\$1,000) from our first two Corporate Sponsors, The Conservation Agency and the Academy of Applied Science, we were able to keep going. And now, because of new and substantial assistance which will be provided by a German industrial firm, Tracto-Technik, our third Corporate Sponsor (\$5,000 annually, which essentially replaces half of the annual support which was lost in 1992), we can start rolling again. Thus, we are now almost back to full steam.

Fortunately, the Society still exists to carry on at all. This is only because we have survived the difficult times by being very frugal, cautious, and conservative in what we did. Every action has been primarily evaluated by whether it threatened the future economic survival of the Society; if it did, it was not pursued.

Although we are back to publishing again, the future is still precarious. Thus, those individuals or companies who can either match the annual contribution by Tracto-Technik or contribute a lesser amount towards that goal, are encouraged to do so. The Society is the only one of its kind in the world. It is up to all of us to keep it going.

Some members may now wonder how we are going to "catch-up" with publications, and provide all the missing issues. We have devised an ingenious solution to this problem, which is currently being evaluated by the Board of Directors. Full details will appear in one of the forthcoming newsletters. One thing we can categorically state right now: no member will be shortchanged, and any membership

dues paid in the past will be honored. Meanwhile, members should note the following: if they have received this newsletter, it means it is "owed" to them from a previous paid-for membership period. Four such "owed" newsletters will be published and mailed relatively soon without members having to do anything (except mail in a change of address, if applicable). The fourth issue will contain membership renewal information and a return envelope.

Due to the newsletter publication delay, we have not been able before now to announce numerous changes that have taken place in the Society. Thus, much of this newsletter is being allocated to bringing these changes to the attention of the membership. For one thing, we have five new individuals on the Society's Board of Directors. There are also three new members on the Editorial Board of the Society's journal, *Cryptozoology*, and five individuals have been elected as Honorary Members of the Society. Details on all of this will appear in this and the next newsletter. The next issue will also contain the long-delayed results of the Society's membership survey.

Of course, there is also a lot of news on cryptozoology itself, and numerous important events have occurred which we will be covering, such as a new moa sighting report in New Zealand, the dramatic discovery of 4,000-year-old mammoth fossils in Siberia, a new alleged Sasquatch (Bigfoot) encounter which was videotaped in California, the first official recognition — finally! — of the Eastern puma by the Canadian provincial government of New Brunswick, dramatic discoveries of large, new species in Vietnam, and new reports of what may be Pleistocene ground sloths in the Brazilian Amazon. And lots, lots more.

Well, to those of you who had lost faith and given up on the Society, please reconsider. And to those of you who hadn't, thank you.

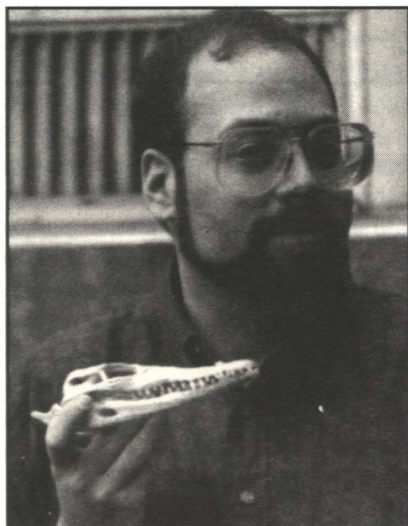
J. Richard Greenwell,
Editor

NEW ISC BOARD MEMBERS

Five individuals, Aaron M. Bauer, C.K. Brain, Angelo P. Capparella, Christine Janis, and Anthony P. Russell, have joined the ISC Board of Directors, replacing former Board members Dmitri Bayanov, Paul H. LeBlond, Phillip V. Tobias, Leigh M. Van Valen, and Forrest G. Wood.

We wish to thank these former Board members for their past services to, and support of, the Society. Dr. Van Valen, meanwhile, has joined the Editorial Board of the Society's journal, *Cryptozoology*. Mr. Wood stepped down from the ISC Board shortly before his death (see obituary, this issue).

After obtaining a B.S. degree in zoology at Michigan State University in 1982, Aaron Bauer attended the University of California at Berkeley, obtaining a Ph.D. in zoology in 1986. His main research relates to the systematics and evolutionary morphology of geckos, the reptilian lung structure, the ecology of tropical reptiles, and the biology of the herpetofauna of western Canada. He also has a particular interest in the historical zoogeography of the southern hemisphere, and has conducted fieldwork in South Africa, Namibia, Australia, New Zealand, and New Caledonia, as well as numerous other countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Europe.



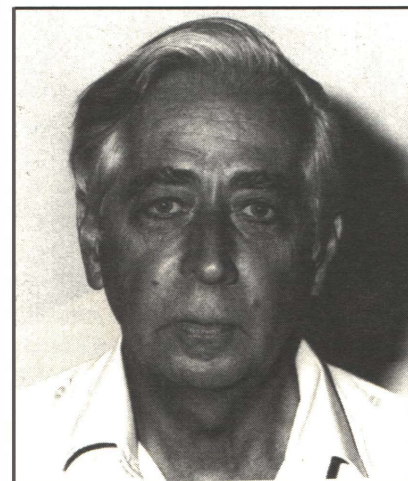
Aaron M. Bauer

Dr. Bauer served as a lecturer at the University of California in 1987, after which he obtained a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Calgary, in Alberta, Canada. He joined the faculty of the Department of Biology at Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania, in 1988, where he now holds the rank of professor. He is the author of over 200 scientific publications, and is a member of over 30 scientific societies.

In 1986, together with his colleague Anthony Russell (see below), Dr. Bauer described *Hoplodactylus delcourti*, the largest gecko in the world. The description was based on a single specimen — the only one known — which was believed to have originated in New Zealand in the 19th century. The current existence of his species is uncertain (see Newsletters, Spring, 1988, and Winter, 1990; and articles by Drs. Bauer and Russell in *Cryptozoology*, Vol. 7, 1988, and Vol. 9, 1990). Dr. Bauer has also been a frequent book reviewer for *Cryptozoology*, and he hopes to apply his herpetological expertise to the pursuit of what he calls "microcryptozoology" — research into possibly smaller cryptozoological forms whose existence may be more probable.

An internationally-recognized authority in several distinct fields, C.K. (Charles Kimberlin) "Bob" Brain obtained a B.Sc. degree at the University of Cape Town in 1950, and a Ph.D. at the same institution in 1957. Since then, he has been a research associate in the Paleontology Department of Pretoria's Transvaal Museum (1954-57), curator of lower vertebrates and invertebrates (1957-61), curator of paleontology (1965-68), and director of the Museum (1968-1991). He also served as keeper of zoology and deputy director of the National Museums of Rhodesia — now Zimbabwe — (1961-65).

The author of over 100 publications in paleontology, taphonomy, zoology, museology, and general natural history, Dr. Brain is recognized, among other things, as a leading expert on the fossil australopithecine hominids, having worked with Raymond A. Dart and John



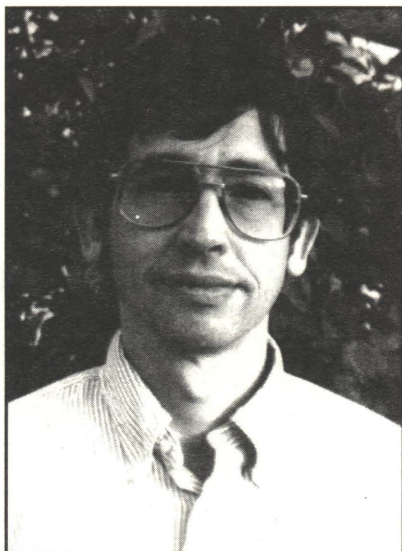
C.K. Brain

T. Robinson in the 1950's — when he and Dr. Robinson also investigated South African "wildman" reports. Dr. Brain's 30 years of research on fossil hominids has helped produce a clearer understanding of early hominid adaptation and ecology.

Dr. Brain has also made a particular study of cave fossil deposits, and his book *The Hunters or the Hunted? An Introduction to African Cave Taphonomy* (University of Chicago Press, 1981), is considered a classic. Dr. Brain has also published widely on modern primates, reptiles, and even protozoa. He is currently chairman of the Department of Invertebrates at the Transvaal Museum.

After obtaining a B.A. degree with a double major (zoology/geology) from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1974, Angelo Capparella attended Texas Tech University, Lubbock, where he obtained an M.A. in museum science in 1978. He then attended Louisiana State University (LSU), obtaining a Ph.D. in 1978. Although also interested in mammals, Dr. Capparella's main research activities have revolved around anything and everything related to Neotropical birds, particularly speciation, diversity, genetic differentiation, and population structure, and he has been applying modern biochemical techniques to his research in these areas.

Dr. Capparella was formerly a biologist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1979-80), a curatorial staff mem-



Angelo P. Capparella

ber of the Museum of Natural Science at LSU (1983-87), and a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Ornithology at the American Museum of Natural History, New York (1987-88). In 1988 he joined the Department of Biological Sciences at Illinois State University, in Normal, where he is now an associate professor and curator of birds and mammals. He also is a research associate in the Division of Birds of the Field Museum of Natural History, in Chicago.

The author of numerous publications, Dr. Capparella has conducted fieldwork in 12 Latin American countries, often as a team member of the LSU ornithological expeditions lead by John O'Neill, who has been involved in the discovery of no less than 12 new South American bird species. Dr. Capparella plans to continue doing fieldwork in Andean and Amazon habitats to better understand Neotropical bird ecology, and to hopefully discover new species. He also will continue applying his ornithological expertise to cryptozoological evidence of an avian nature. Dr. Capparella served on the Editorial Board of *Cryptozoology* between 1988 and 1991.

After obtaining a B.A. in zoology from Cambridge University in 1973, Christine Janis, a native of England, attended Harvard University, where she obtained a Ph.D. in vertebrate paleontology in 1979. Her professional appointments have included instructor (of physiology) at Oregon State University, Corvallis (1977-78),

research fellow at Newnham College, Cambridge University (1979-83), and assistant (1983-89) and, currently, associate professor in the Division of Biology and Medicine at Brown University, in Providence, Rhode Island. She has also been a visiting professor (1995) in the Department of Geophysical Sciences at the University of Chicago.

As a paleomammalogist, Dr. Janis' main research has related to Tertiary mammal



Christine Janis

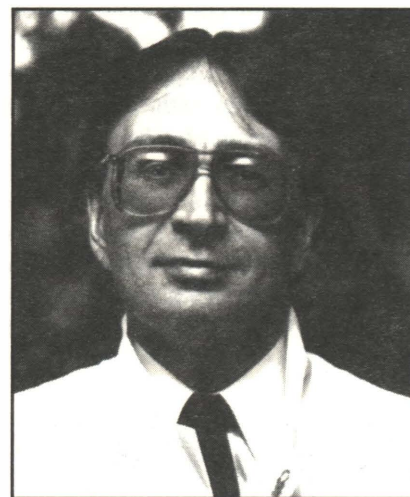
evolution (particularly ungulates), cranial and dental morphology, digestive physiology in both fossil and living herbivorous mammals, and the taxonomy of ruminant artiodactyls. Her research has taken her to over two dozen major museum collections around the world, and her many research publications have appeared in both scientific journals and technical volumes. She is also senior editor of the forthcoming massive, multi-author volume *The Evolution of Tertiary Mammals of North America*, to be published by Cambridge University Press.

Dr. Janis formerly served on the Editorial Board of *Cryptozoology* (1985-1991). One of her cryptozoological interests is the possible persistence of fossil mammal species into historical times (or possibly even to modern times), when evidence of their presence may have been recorded on archaeological or artistic artifacts. Her article on this topic, Fossil Ungulate Mammals

Depicted on Archaeological Artifacts, may be found in Vol. 6 (1987) of *Cryptozoology*.

Anthony P. Russell, another native of England, attended the University of Exeter, in Devonshire, receiving a B.Sc. in Zoology/Botany in 1969. In 1972, he obtained a Ph.D. in zoology from Queen Elizabeth College, University of London. Among other posts, he has worked at the British Museum (Natural History) — now The Natural History Museum — (1969), and the University of Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland (1973). Since 1973 he has been in the Department of Biological Sciences of the University of Calgary, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, as assistant, associate, and, since 1987, professor. He now also serves as department chairman.

A member of many scientific societies, Dr. Russell, as a herpetologist, has been actively concerned with the reptiles of western Canada, as well as with the herpetofauna of various world regions.



Anthony P. Russell

He has a particular interest in functional morphology, biomechanics, and allometry, and has published approximately 200 scientific papers. His research interests extend beyond herpetology, however, and he has also done research on mammalian and avian functional morphology.

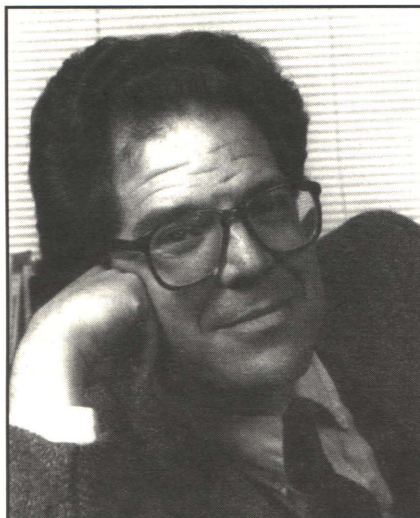
As with Dr. Bauer, Dr. Russell has a particular interest in geckos, and it was he and Dr. Bauer who, in 1986, described *Hoplodactylus delcourti*, the world's largest known gecko (see above). He is also the co-author with Dr. Bauer

of numerous contributions in *Cryptozoology*, as well as several annual meeting presentations, and he likewise supports the concept of "micro-cryptozoological" research.

The Board of Directors now also has a Legal Advisor, Peter A. Jaszi, from whom it can seek guidance and advice on various issues. Professor Jaszi obtained an A.B. from Harvard College in 1968, and J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1971. He joined the faculty of the Washington College of Law, The American University, Washington, D.C., in 1973, where he is now a professor of law. He specializes in copyright law and intellectual property, and also teaches contracts, civil procedure, international copyright law, law and literature, and animal law.

A member of the District of Columbia Bar, Professor Jaszi is also a trustee of the Copyright Society of the U.S.A., a

member of the International Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property, and has served on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of the Copyright Society of the U.S.A.* He also has to his credit many publica-



Peter A. Jaszi

tions and lectures on various aspects of copyright law, and has served as both counsel and expert witness in legal proceedings concerning copyright issues.

One of Professor Jaszi's most colorful undertakings occurred in 1987, when he served as counsel for the Earl of Oxford in an appellate moot court argument on the works of Shakespeare before U.S. Supreme Court Justices Brennan, Blackmun, and Stevens. In the proceedings, which were broadcast nationally on C-SPAN television, Professor Jaszi represented those who claim that Shakespeare's works were actually produced by his contemporary Edward De Vere, the Earl of Oxford. He lost the argument, being unable to convince the justices by "clear and convincing evidence." Professor Jaszi has also discussed the legal strength of Sasquatch evidence in Vol. 9 (1990) of *Cryptozoology*.

NEW HONORARY MEMBERS

Five ISC members have been elected by the Board of Directors as Honorary Members of the Society. These individuals are: Richard S.R. Fitter, Robert L. Downing, Athol M. Douglas, Robert H. Rines, and Forrest G. Wood.

One of these individuals, Mr. Wood, was a founding Board member of the Society in 1982. In 1992, he resigned from the Board because of a serious illness, and he became an Honorary Member soon afterwards by a special Board election shortly before his death (see obituary, this issue). He thus became the first American Honorary Member the Society has ever had, and although he died before we were able to formally list him as such in the ISC publications, we would now like to honor him by including his name, posthumously, on the official list on the back page of this newsletter issue.

Honorary Membership, which is generally restricted to about a dozen persons, includes an automatic Life Membership, and the individual continues to receive

all publications for the rest of his/her life at no cost. The general criteria for Honorary Membership are that: 1) the individual should have dedicated part of his/her life to the significant furtherance of knowledge in cryptozoology in general or a branch of cryptozoology in particular; 2) that this should have been done in a responsible manner; and 3) that the individual is in advanced years and retired from professional life, although he/she may still be active professionally or cryptozoologically. Status, fame, or the number of publications are not necessarily the major considerations.

A biography on Mr. Wood is included in his obituary in this issue. Biographies on the other new Honorary Members follow below.

Athol Douglas, of Augusta, Western Australia, joined the staff of the Western Australian Museum as a naturalist in 1935, and, except for service in World War II, remained there until 1974, when, at age 60, he retired as senior experimental officer. At one time, in the 1950's, he served

as the Museum's acting director. Except for fishes and mollusks, Mr. Douglas was worked in every field of Western Australia's natural history over the past 60 years. Not content with remaining in an office or lab, he has done fieldwork in every geographical area, and it has been said that he probably knows the Western Australian bush better than any other living naturalist.

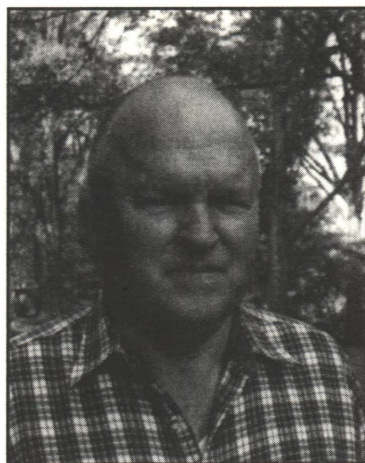


Athol M. Douglas

For many years, as described in his 1980 book *Our Dying Fauna*, Mr. Douglas debunked reports of thylacines (aka Tasmanian tigers) on the Australian mainland. While their supposed extinction in Tasmania dates to the 1930's, extinction on the mainland is thought to have occurred thousands of years ago, long before European colonization, making such reports seem to many zoologists to be beyond the bounds of credibility. After 20 years of further research, including interviews with many witnesses and examination of predator kills and tracks, Mr. Douglas believes his earlier assessment was incorrect, and that the thylacine does survive on mainland Australia. He now wishes he could apologize to those whose reports he rejected.

Mr. Douglas has authored several publications on the subject, including a paper in *Cryptozoology* (Vol 9, 1990). He continues to investigate the thylacine problem, despite his credibility being questioned by Australian academics, and without the financial or moral support of a scientific institution.

Robert Downing, of Clemson, South Carolina, received a B.S. degree from Texas A. & M. University in 1952, and an M.S. from Oklahoma A. & M. University in 1957. His first appointment was as a research biologist with the Texas Game and Fish Commission in 1954, and in 1957 he joined the Deer Research Project at the Georgia Game and Fish Commission. In 1964, he joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as a wildlife research biologist, first for 4 years in



Robert L. Downing

Asheville, North Carolina, followed by 10 years in Blacksburg, Virginia, and 6 years in Clemson, South Carolina. During the latter period, he also served as an adjunct professor at Clemson University, retiring from both positions in 1983.

The author of over 40 publications, Mr. Downing's main research interests have concerned deer biology and ecology, forestry wildlife management, and population analyses and census, particularly of rare species. In the 1970's, Mr. Downing undertook for USFWS the most extensive study ever of the possible existence today of the Eastern puma, *Puma concolor cougar*, a subspecies which federal and state agencies have presumed extinct since early in the century (see *Newsletter*, Autumn, 1989).

Although he was unable to conclusively verify the Eastern puma's survival to the present, the evidence he compiled and analyzed has been invaluable in such research. A summary of his official findings was published in *Cryptozoology*, Vol. 3 (1984), and he gave an updated presentation at the Society's 1988 Annual Membership Meeting at the University of Maryland. Following the termination of the USFWS project and his retirement, Mr. Downing has continued to investigate supposed puma presence in the East in a personal capacity, utilizing his own resources. This has included fieldwork in likely puma habitat, and interviews with eyewitnesses. He plans to continue such investigations indefinitely.

Richard Fitter, of Oxford, England, has been a naturalist and conservationist since before World War II — in which he served in the Operations Research Section of RAF Coastal Command. The author of over 30 natural history books, Mr. Fitter has been instrumental in the success of numerous British wildlife organizations, including The Council for Nature (chairman), the British Trust for Ornithology (secretary), The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (committee chairman), the World Wildlife Fund UK (trustee), and the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society — now Fauna and Flora International (secretary, vice chairman, chairman, and, currently, vice president). He now also serves on the Species Sur-

vival Commission of the World Conservation Union — formerly the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).

It was in June of 1960, while attending the IUCN General Assembly in Poland,



Richard S.R. Fitter

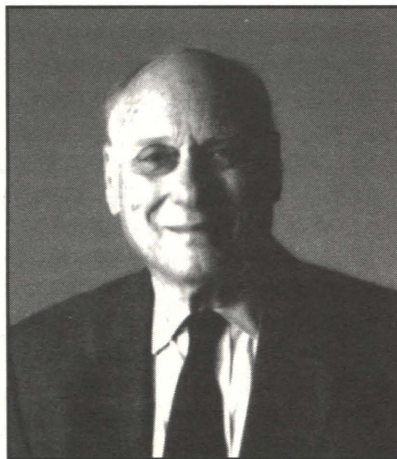
that Mr. Fitter discussed his long-held interest in the question of the Loch Ness Monster with naturalist Sir Peter Scott (an ISC Honorary Member who died in 1989 — see obituary, *Newsletter*, Winter, 1989), which led to further discussions with Scottish Member of Parliament David James (another deceased ISC Honorary Member — see obituary, *Newsletter*, Spring, 1987). These discussions resulted in a House of Commons meeting in 1960, followed by a closed-door scientific panel at the Linnenan Society in 1961. Another Commons meeting then led to the 1962 creation of the Loch Ness Phenomena Investigation Bureau, which, until the mid-1970's, conducted intensive but inconclusive fieldwork at the loch. The Bureau's early work in the 1960's set the stage for all subsequent scientific work in cryptozoology there.

During that period, Mr. Fitter worked, often behind the scenes, at having the Loch Ness problem accepted as a legitimate pursuit worthy of scientific attention, this at a time when the scientific community in Britain was far less receptive to such an idea than it is today. When the Society was founded, Mr. Fitter became a strong supporter of it in Britain, and he participated in its 1987 Loch Ness Monster Symposium held at the Royal Museum of Scotland. His paper was later included in the symposium's proceedings

published by *The Scottish Naturalist*.

Robert Rines, of Concord, New Hampshire, first became interested in applied technology during World War II, when he first designed and patented a sonar unit. He holds a B.S. in electrical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and a Ph.D. from the National Chiao Tung University & College of Engineering, in Hsin Chu, Taiwan. Concurrent with his interest in engineering, Dr. Rines has also had a life-long interest in law. He began practicing law in 1947, after receiving a J.D. from Georgetown University, and has specialized in intellectual property, patent law, and the commercial application of technology. He holds over 50 U.S. patents, mainly in scanning, radar, and sound imaging.

Dr. Rines has created two organizations of note. One is the Franklin Pierce Law Center, the smallest accredited and independent law school in the U.S. The other



Robert H. Rines

is the Academy of Applied Science (AAS), which conducts several U.S.

Army-sponsored educational science and engineering programs. Since 1970, he has also studied the question of the Loch Ness Monster. He has done this by the application of technological innovations to the underwater detection of such supposed animals. Under AAS auspices,

and working with other talented engineers such as Martin Klein and Harold "Doc" Edgerton (see obituary, *Newsletter*, Spring, 1990), Dr. Rines undertook extensive fieldwork at the loch in the 1970's, obtaining numerous sonar contacts with large, mobile, unidentified targets, as well as obtaining the famous underwater photos which appear to show a "flipper," and "body-neck" and "head" configurations.

Because of his Loch Ness work, Dr. Rines has been the recipient of numerous attacks on his person — and on the Academy — by various debunkers, and he has endured such with grace and patience. His work at Loch Ness continues now on a smaller scale, and he does not plan to reveal new findings to the media unless definitive evidence is produced. Dr. Rines has written several articles for *Cryptozoology*, and has made several presentations at the Society's annual meetings, including a paper at the 1987 Loch Ness Monster Symposium in Edinburgh. □

CRYPTOLETTERS

The Editor welcomes letters from readers on any topic related to cryptozoology, but reserves the right to shorten them or make slight changes to improve clarity or style, but not meaning.

To the Editor:

Harking back to your "Invitation for Charter Membership" in 1982, I note that the Society's major purpose is the investigation of "animals of unexpected form or size or unexpected occurrence in time or space."

The Conservation Agency is especially involved in two aspects of cryptozoology: the discovery of new terrestrial vertebrate species, and the rediscovery of any species referred to in the refereed scientific literature as "extinct."

The discovery of new species in many groups, such as insects and bony fishes, is such a standard and commonplace occurrence that they could not qualify as "unexpected." Indeed, biologists esti-

mate that another 20 million or so such small life forms remain unnamed. However, most people — including most biologists — tend to believe there are no more birds, reptiles, amphibians, or mammals to be discovered. Scientists of The Conservation Agency know this to be untrue. Every year we find the unexpected: new species ranging from rabbits and wallabies to frogs and flying lizards. And those species that scientists, in their peer-reviewed wisdom, have published to be extinct sometimes do the most unexpected things, rising from the dead in both time and space.

We believe that a strong, enduring society of cryptozoology can be like the generalized predator. Cryptozoologists can go on hunting for the truly unlikely — surviving dinosaurs, hominids, and creatures of folklore — while being sustained by a diet of commoner discoveries: new species, and the re-found pseudo-extinct. By keeping hope alive for some species perhaps not yet really extinct, and by reminding the general — as well as the scientific — public that there are still lots of big species left to dis-

cover, we believe the International Society of Cryptozoology is a sound investment for The Conservation Agency.

Thus, we would like to become the Society's first Corporate Sponsor. Enclosed is a check for \$1,000 for our first year's contribution. Carry on!

James D. Lazell
President
The Conservation Agency
Jamestown, Rhode Island, U.S.A.

Our gratitude to The Conservation Agency runs deep. Our gratitude also goes to the Academy of Applied Science, in Concord, New Hampshire, whose President, Robert H. Rines, likewise informed the Society shortly afterwards that it would be supporting it with an equal contribution. More recently, the Tracto-Technik Group of Companies, based in Germany but with branches in France, Britain, and the U.S., has agreed to be the Society's third Corporate Sponsor — but what could be called its first "industrial sponsor" — with an annual contribution of \$5,000. We are very grateful to Tracto-Technik head Wolfgang Schmidt for this support, which goes a long way towards replacing the annual \$10,000 contribution from two sources that was lost in 1992 (see Editorial, this issue), and allows us to proceed with publications again. Editor

Society Purpose and Policy: The International Society of Cryptozoology was founded in 1982 in Washington, D.C., and is incorporated and operates under the laws of the District of Columbia. It is also recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt, non-profit scientific organization. The Society serves as a focal point for the investigation, analysis, publication, and discussion of all matters related to animals of unexpected form or size, or unexpected occurrence in time or space. The Society also serves as a forum for public discussion and education, and for providing reliable information to appropriate authorities. The Society takes no position of which of these supposed animals may actually exist. Opinions may be expressed by individual members, but they are personal ones, and do not reflect any official or unofficial Society policy. Likewise, the Society takes no position concerning the authenticity of any given cryptozoological evidence or events.

Memberships and Subscriptions: Membership and subscription inquiries should be addressed to the ISC Secretariat, P.O. Box 43070, Tucson, Arizona 85733, U.S.A. Membership is US \$32 or £22 a year. Payment may be made by personal check if drawn against a U.S. or U.K. bank. Persons donating any additional amount become Sustaining Members. Membership includes the receipt of *The ISC Newsletter* quarterly and the journal *Cryptozoology* annually. Couples may take out a joint membership for US \$37 or £25 (only one set of publications is sent). Institutions such as corporations, zoological parks and aquariums, and libraries may obtain institutional subscriptions to the Society's publications for US \$45 a year. There are no additional fees for memberships or institutional subscriptions outside of the U.S.A. Although payment by non-U.S./U.K. members is preferred in US\$ or £Sterling (by bank draft drawn against a U.S. or U.K. bank, or by international postal money order), individuals in Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, and Switzerland may pay by personal check in their own currencies provided the equivalent of US \$32 (using the exchange rate current at the time) is sent. Members in other European countries may pay by Eurocheque in £Sterling provided that £22 is sent. Eurocheques in other currencies cannot be accepted. The above payment methods apply also to membership renewals. All payments should be sent to the ISC Secretariat at the above address.

Back Issues: All back issues of both *The ISC Newsletter* and the journal *Cryptozoology* are available to individuals for US \$3.50 or £2.50 and US \$18 or £12 respectively (institutions should contact the ISC Secretariat for institutional rates). These prices include postage costs. Orders between \$33 and \$100 (or £23-69) receive a 10% discount; orders between US \$101 and \$200 (£70-138) receive a 20% discount; and orders of \$201 (£139) or more receive a 30% discount. Free order forms listing all back publications may be requested from the ISC Secretariat. All orders must be prepaid, and the above payment methods apply.

Field Medical Advisor: Michael J. Manyak, M.D., Department of Urology, George Washington University Medical Center, 2150 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037, U.S.A. Tel: 202/994-4002; Fax: 202/994-3671. Members planning fieldwork, particularly in tropical areas, are encouraged to contact Dr. Manyak for free medical/health care advice.

Honorary Members: Marjorie Courtenay-Latimer (South Africa); Athol M. Douglas (Australia); Robert L. Downing (U.S.A.); Richard S.R. Fitter (U.K.); John Green (Canada); The Lord Hunt of Llanfair Waterdine (U.K.); Marie-Jeanne Koffmann (Russia); Theodore Monod (France); Robert H. Rines (U.S.A.); Bob Titmus (Canada); Forrest G. Wood (U.S.A.).

Benefactors: Rolf Auster (U.S.A.); Elizabeth Bosworth (U.S.A.); G. A. Buder, III (U.S.A.); Loren Coleman (U.S.A.); Robert C. Dorion (Guatemala); Edward L. Krause (U.S.A.); Michael T. Martin (U.S.A.); Gale J. Raymond (U.S.A.); Hugh H. Trotti, Jr. (U.S.A.); Dick Venema (The Netherlands); Kurt Von Nieda (U.S.A.); William Weiler (U.S.A.); Edward B. Winn (Canada); Bette Wolfskill (U.S.A.); Count F. C. Zedlitz (Argentina).

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